

26 September 1957

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED], Secretary,
IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges

FROM: 25X1A9a [REDACTED] Secretary,
RIS Subcommittee on Electronics and Telecommunications

SUBJECT: Comments on Soviet Long Term Exchange Proposal

- REFERENCES:
- a. Memorandum for Chairman, this Subcommittee, from Secretary, IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges, 18 September 1957, Subject, Soviet Long Term Exchange Proposal.
 - b. This Subcommittee's Memorandum for IAC Standing Committee on Exchanges, 5 August 1957, Subject, Revision of Intelligence Recommendations in the Field of Electronics Exchanges.
 - c. This Subcommittee's Memorandum for Secretary, IAC Standing Committee on Exchanges, 13 June 1956, Subject, [REDACTED] Advice Concerning Proposed Exchange in the Field of Telecommunications.

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1. This Subcommittee believes that having US-Soviet exchange teams in the fields of radio engineering and the electrical industry would clearly result in a net [REDACTED] gain to the US regardless of whether the respective exchange visits were of long or short duration. The advantages of having exchanges are spelled out in References b. and c.

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2. The field of radio engineering in this instance is construed to mean the electronics and telecommunications sectors thereof. The fields of instrument construction and means of automation (given in para. 3 of Reference a.) are looked upon as being outside the scope of the Subcommittee's previous consideration of exchanges.

3. US experts who have visited Soviet plants during the past several months have reported that important information of advantage to the US may be gained through the medium of exchange visits. One official of a prominent US industry, which manufactures transistors among other items, recently returned from a two week visit of plants in the USSR and indicated that the US could learn more in this and other new fields through exchanges.

4. This Subcommittee is of the opinion that exchange visits of longer duration (such as six months) would have no appreciable diminishing effect

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upon the net gain to the US. In fact, it is believed that visits of longer duration may assist toward the net gain to the US, especially if certain measures are taken by the US. These include:

- a. Careful selection of highly competent and well-qualified US scientific, technical and research experts and industrial executives.
- b. Carefully chosen itinerary of plants, laboratories and personnel in the US for each Soviet group.
- c. Utilization of a US agency to supervise the itinerary of each Soviet group, thus providing a "headquarters" from which the Soviet group may go out and to which it may return between visits to plants, laboratories and personnel, and also providing a central point through which queries and requests by the Soviets, and material and information from the US industry, may be handled. US agencies suggested are the Department of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, or such private national organizations such as the American Institute of Electrical Engineers (AIEE), or the Institute of Radio Engineers (IRE).

5. It would be expected that the Soviet Government would set up, through some agency within the USSR, the same sort of arrangement as indicated for the US in para. 4c, above. It is recommended, in such case, that the Ministry of Radio Technical Industry (MRTP) or the Ministry of Communications be established through arrangements between the two governments.

- 2 -

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